

THE JOSEPH COUNCIL

A Project of Citizens for Community Values



The Evangelical and Catholic Prayer Plan for the State of Ohio in Response to the Coronavirus

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14



United in Daily Prayer

Each day of each week, we dedicate to praying for certain professions and vocations, which are keeping us safe and providing for the common good.

Sunday: Parents, Caregivers and Families

Exodus 20:12: "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you."

Father, today we pray for all parents, caregivers and families who are living the most important vocation on earth: the family. The family is the sanctuary of life where we learn to love and be loved. The family is also the first place where the Gospel is announced through new life. So we pray for protection of all families from the coronavirus and any illness of the mind, body or spirit.

Monday: Doctors and Nurses

Luke 5:31-32: "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

Father, we pray for all doctors and nurses who are on the front lines fighting the coronavirus. We pray for their protection and that they feel our prayers and the Holy Spirit supporting them while they sacrifice their very lives for the sick who are in need of their care. As their work and lives so closely resembles yours, O Lord, draw close to them in their hour of need.

Tuesday: First Responders, including Firefighters, EMT and Police

Matthew 5:9: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

Father, we pray for all first responders, including firefighters, EMT and police, who, through their daily sacrifices, enable ordinary citizens to feel protection and peace. We thank them for their willingness—at a moment's notice—to rush to save our lives despite their own danger and fears from the coronavirus.

Wednesday: Government Officials

Romans 13:1: "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."

Father, we pray for all government officials who are working tirelessly to protect the citizenry of the State of Ohio from the coronavirus. We pray for wisdom, prudence and courage to be theirs in abundance so they may guide our state to new life beyond this current threat.

Thursday: Social Service Agencies providing Food, Clothing and Shelter

Matthew 25:34-36: "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'"

Father, we pray for all social service agencies, including the Church, which is providing food, clothing and shelter during this coronavirus crisis to the most vulnerable in our society. May your workers feel your comfort and protection as they provide to the 'least of these,' and know that when they serve the poor, they serve you.

Friday: Grocery Workers, Pharmacists, Truck Drivers and Logistics Personnel

Colossians 3:23: "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men..."

Father, we pray for all grocery workers, pharmacists, truck drivers and logistics personnel who are daily doing their duty to serve the common good despite the risks and challenges their vocations present to them and their families. We pray that they know that you see their work and are 'well pleased' with them.

Saturday: Pastors, Priests and other Religious Leaders

1 Peter 2:5: "You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

Father, we pray for all pastors, priests and other religious leaders as they shepherd their people through these uncertain times. Grant them a new boldness for the Gospel so they will 'proclaim Christ crucified' and direct not only their flock, but the entire culture back to you, your Holy Spirit, and your Son, who died and rose again!